

**Department of Public Works and Transportation**

***DIVISION OF SOLID WASTE SERVICES***



***MONTHLY REPORT***  
***JULY 2000***



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## **OVERVIEW**

### **Tonnage at a Glance**

The following table shows key material flows during the current month, during the fiscal years to date (FY Total), and during the current calendar month in the two prior fiscal years. (County fiscal year 2000 began July 1, 1999.)

<b>FACILITY</b>	<b>July FY 01</b>	<b>FY 01 Total</b>	<b>July FY 00</b>	<b>July FY 99</b>
Materials Recycling Facility <sup>(1)</sup>	5,589 Tons	5,589 Tons	4,557 Tons	5,406 Tons
Brunswick Landfill Facility <sup>(4)</sup>	12,647 Tons	12,647 Tons	15,005 Tons	13,657 Tons
American Ash Recycling <sup>(2)</sup>	2,730 Tons	2,730 Tons	3,108 Tons	N/A
Resource Recovery Facility <sup>(3)</sup>	49,652 Tons	49,652 Tons	47,989 Tons	38,056 Tons
Yard Trim Compost Facility	3,503Tons	3,503 Tons	2,390 Tons	3,434 Tons

<sup>(1)</sup>For FY00, MRF tons reported are outgoing. For previous years, incoming was reported.

<sup>(2)</sup>Tons shipped out to ash recycling facility during the indicated period. All tons so shipped are recycled.

<sup>(3)</sup>RRF tonnage refers to tons burned (processed). Waste shipped from the Transfer Station but not burned is in the pit and is not included in the tonnage presented here. For FY00, these tonnages are preliminary, with adjustments made in the December and June monthly reports.

<sup>(4)</sup>This category only addresses waste sent to the landfill for disposal. It does not include rubble that is recycled at Clean Rock or other locations.

### **Revenue Analysis and Systems Evaluation**

Reviewed monthly tonnage reporting for internal consistency. Sent reminder notices to all haulers regarding 6-month tonnage reports due August 1, 2000. Reviewed additional information from consultants on both waste generation studies ongoing—total county waste generation and the nonresidential waste generation rates studies. Prepared detailed responses to questions concerning solid waste management costs raised in similar letters received from a citizen and a councilman. Calculated cash restriction reserve requirements for FY00 year-end closeout. Coordinated interdepartmental review of landfill closure remaining liability calculations for year-end. Held meetings on County participation in Regional Performance Measurement Consortium. Engaged the participation of a 157-unit townhouse community in testing bag-based curbside recycling. Engaged no-cost participation of a vendor in testing the applicability of a new variable rate technology in Montgomery County. Continued variable rate analyses and drafted additional report sections. Obtained review of Public Information Office on

materials used to present solid waste charges and what costs they cover. Prepared training materials for phone operators regarding FY01 solid waste charge rates.

## **CITIZEN COMMITTEES**

**Facilities Implementation Group (FIG)** – FIG meeting was held on July 18, 2000. On the agenda were a transportation presentation by SCS Engineers and a presentation by Stapleton and Associates on ISO 14001. ISO 14001 is an international standard for environmental management systems. The next FIG meeting will be on August 22 at 7:30 p.m.

**Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC)** – SWAC met Tuesday, July 11, with ten SWAC members in attendance. County staff briefed the committee on the DSWS Waste Reduction Program.

## **COLLECTIONS**

**Refuse** – Refuse collections went as scheduled with no disruptions to service. Six hundred and fifty-six homes in the Duffief area of North Potomac became part of the County's collection system as a result of the community's petition for inclusion. These homes were in a recycling only area and opted to become part of our refuse program.

**Recycling** – Mixed paper recycling started in Areas 9 and 13 on Monday, July 24, 2000, adding another 24,181 homes to the program. This brings the current count to 166,707 or 84.4% of our customer population. Preparation work is in progress for the start up of the last 31,000 homes, Areas 1 and 11, the Bethesda and Damascus communities. During the month of July the Mixed Paper drop-offs received a total of 28,820 lbs. of paper from three locations.

**Contractor Performance** – During the month of July, there were 28 complaints not resolved by the contractors. The County corrected all 28 issues. The number of complaints received in July 2000 totaled 824. This represents a 26.8% increase from July 1999, which had 650 complaints. Yard trim collections has the largest number of reported misses and much of the problem can be attributed to new drivers that are usually assigned to this function.

**Enforcement Actions** – In July, 24 tickets were issued in the amount of \$13,750.00 for violations of County Solid Waste Laws. Seven tickets for not having a valid collector's license, in the amount of \$4,500.00. Eight tickets for collecting without a valid collector's tag attached to the vehicle, in the amount of \$4,500.00. Four tickets for not having loads covered, in the amount of \$2,000.00. Four tickets for collecting solid waste before 7 a.m. in the amount of \$2,250.00. One ticket for littering on a public highway, in the amount of \$500.00. One Notice of Violation (NOV) was issued for no signage on vehicle. Eight for permitting solid waste to accumulate. One for unsafe vehicle, placed out of service. One NOV for leaving a vehicle unattended. Seven for not having a tarp in place. One for not being a licensed collection company.

**Customer Service** – In July, there were 8,532 incoming calls with 27 follow-up calls as a quality control check. Also, 1,699 recycle bins were delivered.

**Volunteer Activities** – During the month of July, Master Recycler/Composter Program Volunteers contributed 136.5 hours of service and reached approximately 2,221 residents. Volunteer activities included 3 mixed paper drop-offs, a computer drop-off, a concert in Damascus, Household Hazardous Waste Collection at Shady Grove, and the Farm Tour at Linden Farm and Farmers Markets at Bethesda and Wheaton.

## **WASTE MINIMIZATION**

**Drop-off Programs** – Bids for reusable shopping bags, to promote waste reduction, were reviewed and recommendation to award was sent to the Procurement Office. A small quantity of similar type bags were acquired in late FY00 via a direct purchase order, and are distributed at HHW events by volunteers.

**Computer Recycling** – A computer-recycling event was held on July 16. Approximately 7.6 tons of material was received, and approximately 145 residents participated in the event.

**Department of Environmental Protection's Home Composting and Source Reduction Activities** – Environmental Lawn Care Program won a 2000 Achievement Award from the National Association of Counties (NACo). Program consists of grasscycling messages, water conservation and drought management, Integrated Pest Management, and composting initiatives, especially with respect to the website and display and transit advertisements.

Display ads for Grasscycling and Compost Bins continue to run in the Gazette and Journal Newspapers.

Environmental gardening column (Green Man) with Gazette Newspapers continues.

## **HAZARDOUS WASTE PROGRAMS**

**Household Hazardous Waste Collection** – Forty-five citizens who could not attend the next scheduled event came to the Transfer Station to drop off household hazardous waste in July. One HHW event was held at the Transfer Station on July 9th. There were 800 participants.

**Small Quantity Generator (Ecowise) Program** – One Ecowise event was held in July, 9 companies attended.

## **AIR PERMITS AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMS**

**Resource Recovery Facility** – In July, the Continuous Emissions Monitoring System (CEM) indicated that all three units were running continuously until July 23. Because of low tonnage, Ogden decided to bring down one unit at a time for periodic inspection. Unit 3 was brought

offline at 10 p.m. on July 23 and units 1 and 2 continued to operate until July 25. After completing the inspection for unit 3, it was brought online at about 11 p.m. on July 25, and unit 1 was brought offline at about 7 p.m. the same day. Thereafter, units 2 and 3 continued to operate until July 27. Unit 1 was brought online on July 27 and at about 11 p.m. on July 28, unit 2 was brought offline. Thereafter, units 1 and 3 continued to operate till the end of the month. There were no equipment malfunctions in July that affected unit operations or stack emissions.

No "Code Red" days were forecast in July.

The set of ten CEM CDROMS was updated to include CEM data up to June 30, 2000. Copies of the CDROM were placed in the Rockville and Poolesville libraries and distributed to DSWS staff and citizen committees, including SWAC and FIG. A new set of ten CDROMS containing stack emissions data from 15 stack tests is being updated. The new CDs will be ready by the end of August.

As of July 31, the RRF has not received the "Title V Air Permit to operate" from MDE. The Agency sent a renewal application to Ogden for submission. Because the current operation permit will expire on October 31, 2000, Ogden prepared the renewal application for review by the FIG Air Quality Sub-Committee. The Sub-Committee reviewed the application and had no comments. The application will be submitted to MDE in September 2000.

**Oaks Landfill Energy Recovery Facility: Leachate Evaporation Technology** – In July, the Leachate Thermal Treatment System (LTTS) operated for 28 days, evaporating on the average, eight gallons per minute. Bentech submitted to the County a proposal to implement the electrical component of the facility. One of the major requests by Bentech was that the County purchase the green power from Oaks at a cost that is slightly lower than what the County is currently paying PEPCO. Bentech also indicated that the firm is negotiating with other companies through the National Landfill Gas Consortium (NLGC) for purchase of green power from the Oaks. The County reviewed Bentech's submission and requested additional documents for review to determine Bentech's implementation abilities and achievements in other projects. After receipt of these documents, the County will decide the future course of action.

**Yard Trim Composting Facility: Consent Agreement Evaluation** – In July, ENSR started preparing the draft report for the field program that was concluded in June. The County expects the report by August 18. DSWS will review the report and copies will be submitted to the Maryland Environmental Service (MES) and the Facilities Implementation Group (FIG) for review. After the review process is completed, the report will be finalized and submitted to the Maryland Department of Environment (MDE) in September.

**Facilities Implementation Group (FIG) Air Quality Subcommittee** – In July, DSWS and ENSR prepared responses to the comments received on the RRF air quality products from committee members. This information was mailed to the committee members on July 25. Because of the increasing importance of the role of dioxins in the Health Risk Assessment, ENSR recommended that we obtain electronic files of the RRF stack test data from the vendors. DSWS is currently working with Ogden's environmental engineer to obtain this data. Since two of the vendors, who conducted a total of fourteen stack tests, are no longer under contract with Ogden, it is estimated that it will take at least two months to obtain the data. ENSR will review the data and develop emission factors for the update of the RRF Health Risk Assessment. This information will be submitted to the committee for review.

Updated CDROMs containing the June CEM data from the RRF were distributed to SWAC (Dr. Goldman) and FIG (Abby Lindstrom). The next meeting of the Sub-Committee is planned for fall 2000.

**Contractual Work** – Because of the delay in receiving electronic files for the organics from the vendors, the County advised ENSR to start working on the Epidemiological Study. ENSR has indicated that a draft report on this topic would be made available to the County by November 2000.

## **RECYCLING**

**Public Outreach** – DSWS has been working closely with the County's Division of Facilities and Services, the Montgomery County Public School System, several property management companies and others to improve recycling awareness and action.

The SORRT business recycling awareness campaign continues. Response has been strong with calls resulting from the campaign. Staff made over 450 telephone contacts. In addition, over 1,370 mailings were distributed to businesses in July and 650 on-site visits were conducted. To date, 4,275 on-site visits have been made.

The web site address for the County's recycling program is [www.MCRecycles.org](http://www.MCRecycles.org). Other related web site addresses for specific County recycling programs are: [www.SORRT.org](http://www.SORRT.org) and [www.TRRAC.org](http://www.TRRAC.org). Improvements and additions to these sites are being made more quickly, and updates will be provided on a continual basis.

**Commercial Recycling and Waste Reduction** – Staff delivered a customized training program to all County Recycling Coordinators from both DFS managed & leased properties. This was done to ensure that all County employees have an effective recycling program and an awareness of the "recycling loop"- waste reduction, reuse, recycling, and buying recycled. We also extended our tenant education services to several property management companies including those that have experienced illegal dumping problems. In addition, staff members provided tenant education to tenants of office buildings that have mixed paper recycling programs already in place.

**Multi-Family Recycling** – Staff continues to perform on-site evaluations of recycling programs, and work with property managers and residents to provide assistance and support. The Division continues to solicit properties to participate in the bin effectiveness study. Staff participated at a multi-family apartment community event at The Manor where information on recycling was provided.

**Mixed Paper Recycling** – The follow-up telephone contact with residents, approximately two weeks after their new service begins, continues. This contact is designed to be a short, friendly phone call to ask people about their experience with the new mixed paper recycling program, and to provide assistance and answers. Response from residents has been overwhelmingly positive. The refrigerator magnet reminding citizens of all the items collected for recycling at the curb and the vinyl stickers for blue bins were mailed to residents in Areas 9 and 13 who have mixed paper collection starting in July. These items will also be distributed to the remaining households in

Areas 1 and 11 that start in August. Additional quantities of the magnet and sticker are being produced, because of resident requests.

Also, the mixed paper drop-off sites continued and 28,820 lbs. of mixed paper was collected from three locations. These drop-off sites will be phased out when the program is completely on-line in August.

**MCPS Recycling Activities** – MCPS recycled 6% of its waste stream during the month of July.

Staff made arrangements with Forest Oak Middle School to set-up a model recycling program in August. In addition, a model recycling program is scheduled to be implemented at Ronald McNair Elementary School, and the model program at the Board of Education at 850 Hungerford Drive will be completed during the month of August.

## **PILOT PROGRAMS**

**Tubgrinding Pilot** – Currently, there are about 777 yards of processed screened reject materials to be marketed. In July, 715 yards of screened reject materials was produced, bringing the total to be processed to 13,100 yards (4,992 tons). The material is being monitored daily and processing will start this month.

**Bagging Pilot** – In July, 51,000 bags of Leafgro were produced at the Compost Facility and 45,000 bags were shipped to distributors. At the transfer station, 2,600 bags of Leafgro were shipped to distributors. In FY 2000, 354,263 bags of Leafgro were produced and 228,013 bags were sold to distributors.

**Ash Recycling Pilot** - The ash-recycling pilot continued into its second year of operations. No new problems occurred in July. Rail movements by CSX adversely affected some ash shipments, but they recovered within a few days.

## **FACILITY ACTIVITIES**

**Resource Recovery Facility** – The Facility primarily operated with all three units throughout the month. Unit load was managed between 70 and 100 percent to follow best electric rates and to manage the refuse pit. Short outages were taken for units 1 and 3 as a result of low refuse inventory. During these short outages, boiler cleaning was performed and grate bars and refractory were inspected. Unit 2 was removed from service on the July 29 because of low refuse inventory.

On July 1, 2 and 9 PEPCO declared Minimum Generation status, and the Facility lowered its output accordingly. Approximately 250 Megawatt hours were lost during the period.

Approximately 604 tons of yard trim material were rail hauled.

Approximately 2,730 tons of ash was transported for recycling.



There were no reportable air or water quality excursions. The following reports were submitted:

- June 2000 Water Supply report to Maryland Department of the Environment
- Second quarter 2000 NPDES report to the Authority and Maryland Department of the Environment
- Second quarter 2000 Operations and Emissions report to Maryland Department of the Environment
- Air emission data CDROMs were updated.

The formal NPDES inspection report from Maryland Department of the Environment was received. No significant problems were noted.

Ogden's regional environmental engineer reviewed operations data.

Tours were conducted on the 14<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup>. Approximately 15 representatives from Taiwan and Germany toured the Facility.

**Materials Recovery Facility** – Approximately 1,521 tons of commingled material, and 4,068 tons of mixed paper were shipped out after processing.

Drawings, 90 percent complete, for the west wing expansion were received, reviewed and returned with comments. Office Paper Systems, Inc. began to transport the County's residential mixed paper to their facility and process the material on July 3. A request for bids was issued for selected equipment.

**Oaks Landfill** – The contractor for the Phase II closure construction, Barbella Environmental Technology, Inc., completed the 65-acre cap in the final Phase II areas. Barbella is approximately 98 percent complete with the construction work. Most of the remaining work consists of storm water drainage structures and final grading and stabilization of the site.

Cherry Hill Construction, the contractor for the Phase I closure construction (about 68 acres on the western side of the landfill) continues to place soil over the completed liner and geocomposite areas. Cherry Hill still has started grading the subbase for the approximately 25 acres that remain to be capped. Cherry Hill is also continuing work on several drainage structures. Construction is approximately 60 percent done.

The gas migration problem on the north side of the landfill has been largely mitigated through the five extraction wells installed to address this problem. The situation continues to be closely monitored due to the persistent presence of methane in one of the wells.

**Transfer Station** – During July, Ogden Martin shipped, via rail, 46,158 tons of processible waste from the Transfer Station to the Resource Recovery Facility, 3,837 tons more than shipped in July 1999.

Litter was collected by MES along Shady Grove Road from Route 355 to the intersection with Muncaster Mill Road.

Additional recycling boxes used at the Public Unloading Facility were repaired, scraped, and painted.

Work continued on correcting electrical problems affecting outdoor lighting. The contractor for the Nonprocessable Waste facility completed addressing structural steel punch list items and completed painting the structural members of the facility and began installation of siding.

Recaulking of the concrete panels on the buildings continues.

Atlantic Builders Group, Inc. continued work on the future recycling bays. Heavy rains hampered most construction.

The standby generator was installed along with some of the switch gear. Additional switch gear equipment needs to be installed along with auxiliary equipment on the generator.

**Site 2 Landfill Properties** – No division activity occurred at the site 2 properties. Mowing continued as needed.

**Solid Waste Facilities Master Plan** – On the agenda of the next FIG meeting will be a discussion of a berm construction between the Compost Facility and the Gothic Barn called for by the Plan.

**Yard Trim Compost Facility** – Three thousand five hundred and three (3,503) tons of grass and no leaves were received at Dickerson for composting. Two thousand seven hundred and ninety two (2,792) cubic yards of Leafgro were sold in bulk.

**Linden Farm Renovations** – The project has been completed. Under the signed bagging agreement, the County is to renovate the Feed Barn and Bank Barn by June 2001. The County is in the process of receiving quotes from contractors.

Phase I of the plantings to screen the Compost Facility from the Linden Farm is complete. C & C Farms has designed Phase II of the plantings to be done this fall.

### **Out-of-County Haul**

**Brunswick County, Virginia** – During the month of July, about 9,071 tons of ash residue and 3,576 tons of nonprocessable waste were transported to the County's dedicated disposal cell at the Brunswick Waste Management Facility, Inc. Landfill in Brunswick County, VA. There were 1,387 tons of dirt, rock and wood recycled at Clean Rock in Hagerstown, MD. There are currently 68 rail cars in the transportation fleet (up from about 55 last winter when waste volumes were lower) and over 280 containers. Each rail car carries three containers. Two more rail cars have been ordered to increase the fleet size to 70 rail cars. The extra rail cars and containers help buffer any inconsistencies in CSX service and also address the increase in ash production associated with the higher waste quantities that have been received. The contractor is working with CSX to try to improve rail service.

**York, Pennsylvania** – In July, 2,730 tons of ash residue (back hauled by rail from the RRF) were shipped from the Transfer Station to American Ash Recycling in York, PA to be recycled into aggregate.

## **GENERAL INFORMATION**

### **Important Telephone Numbers**

General information on solid waste- 240/777-6400

Customer Service- 240/777-6410

Transfer Station- 301/840-2370

Materials Recovery Facility- 301/417-1447- Maryland Environmental Service

Resource Recovery Facility- 301/349-5685 County Office  
301/916-3031 Ogden Martin Systems of Montgomery

Yard Trim Compost Facility- 301/428-8185

Internet for DSWS - [www.MCRecycles.org](http://www.MCRecycles.org)

Note: All comments, questions, and suggestions on the contents of this report should be addressed to:

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## SOLID WASTE FACTS IN A NUTSHELL

<i><b>TOPIC OR FACILITY</b></i>	
Current Recycling Rate in Montgomery County	36%
Recycling Goal by 2000	50%
New Recycling Programs Scheduled for FY 01	Countywide completion in August 2000 of Residential Mixed Paper Collection
Resource Recovery Facility (RRF)	Guaranteed Capacity = 85% of 1800 tpd on an annual basis (558,450 tons/yr).
Yard Trim Composting Facility (DCF)	Operations Limited to Receipt of 77,000 tons/year under Sugarloaf Settlement Agreement. FY00 tons received- 58,602
# Residences receiving trash collection by County contractors	82,599
# Residences receiving collection of recyclables in blue bins and yard waste collection	195,405
Term of out-of-county waste transportation and disposal contract with Brunswick Waste Management Facility, Inc.	June 19, 1997 through June 30, 2012 with an option for a five-year renewal. (Service started on October 20, 1997.)

## ***GLOSSARY OF ACRONYMS***

AAR	American Ash Recycling, Inc.
APC	Air Pollution Control
ASME	American Society of Mechanical Engineers
BFI	Browning Ferris Industries
CEM	Continuous Emissions Monitoring
CIP	Capital Improvements Program
COG	Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments
CSX	Chesapeake Transportation Systems
DEP	Department of Environmental Protection
DFS	Division of Facilities and Services
DSWS	Division of Solid Waste Services
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
FIG	Facilities Implementation Group
HCFA	Health Care Financing Administration
HHW	Household Hazardous Waste
IFB	Invitation For Bid
IRS	Internal Revenue Service
LTTS	Leachate Thermal Treatment System
MCPS	Montgomery County Public Schools
MDE	Maryland Department of Environment
MES	Maryland Environmental Service
mg/l	milligrams per liter
MNCPPC	Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission
MRF	Materials Recovery Facility
MWh	Mega Watt hours
NPDES	National Pollution Discharge Elimination System
OLAC	Oaks Landfill Advisory Commission
OMB	Office of Management and Budget
PEPCO	Potomac Electric Power Company
ROL	Reduced Operating Level
RRF	Resource Recovery Facility
SCA	Sugarloaf Citizens Association
SORRT	Smart Organizations Reduce and Recycle Tons
SWAC	Solid Waste Advisory Committee
TCLP	Toxic Characteristic Leaching Procedure
TPD	Tons Per Day
T.R.R.A.C.	Think Reduce and Recycle at Apartments and Condominiums
WM	Waste Management
YTCF	Yard Trim Composting Facility